

ture is copious. Moreover stolons are generally slender; *Triadenum* is the only genus, we know of, in which the stolons are composed of thick, fleshy internodes, thus resembling a rhizome. Further investigations of this subject are necessary, however; the object of presenting these notes was to show that the term "rhizome" when applied in the proper manner may as a vegetative structure contribute to the distinguishing of genera or species, as a character supplementary to the floral. The reason, why the writer selected Gray's Manual as a starting point for this discussion, was simply, because we consider it the standard work on American systematic botany. If a future edition of this manual would be elaborated so as to include the morphology of the vegetative organs of reproduction more completely than has been the case heretofore, it would render great assistance to the study of the North American Flora.

CLINTON, MARYLAND.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES 177 AND 178.

PLATE 177.

Fig. 1, *POLYGONATUM BIFLORUM*. Rhizome of a mature specimen; St. = base of floral stem. Fig. 2, *TRIPSACUM DACTYLOIDES*, the seedling; R. = the primary root. Fig. 3, same species, a young specimen; P. = the prophylla. Fig. 4, same species, cross-section of the prophyllon. Fig. 5, *MEDEOLA VIRGINIANA*, rhizome of mature specimen, letter as above. Fig. 6, *CARDAMINE DOUGLASSII* (Torr.) Britton, rhizome of mature specimen, letter as above. All the figures except fig. 4 are about natural size.

PLATE 178.

Fig. 7, *GENTIANA VILLOSA*, rhizome of mature specimen, letter as above. Fig. 8, *PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM*, seedling in its third year, letter as above. Fig. 9, *HYDROPHYLLUM CANADENSE*, rhizome of mature specimen; L. = green leaves, St. = flowering stem. Fig. 10, *DENTARIA LACINIATA*, seedling showing the one cotyledon free (Cot.), the other enclosed in the seed; L. = the first developed leaf. Fig. 11, same species, a mature rhizome; letter as above. Fig. 12, *PHRYMA LEPTOSTACHYA*, the pseudo-rhizome of a mature specimen, letter as above. All the figures are about natural size.

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RORIPA ISLANDICA AN INVALID NAME.—Since I followed<sup>1</sup> Schinz & Thellung in taking up for *Roripa palustris* (L.) Bess. the name *R. islandica* (Oeder) Schinz & Thellung, my attention has been directed by Dr. Theodor Holm and also by Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie to the fact, overlooked by me, that the basis of Schinz & Thellung's combination is insecure, since Oeder did not unequivocally publish the binomial *Sisymbrium islandicum*, as has been asserted. Instead, Oeder

<sup>1</sup>Fernald, RHODORA, xxx. 132 (1928).

merely designated the plant by a polynomial, with the queried word "islandicum" in parentheses: "*Sisymbrium, (islandicum?) siliquis brevibus*" etc. This is certainly not a clear publication of the binomial *S. islandicum* and I was in error in following Schinz & Thellung without verification. Incidentally, although it is now of but slight importance, Dr. Alfred Becherer of Basel calls my attention to the fact that the combination *Roripa islandica* goes back to Borbás, *Balaton Tavának és Partmellékének*, 392 (1900), where the combination is published, with *S. islandicum* Oeder as its basis. Under the International Rules *Roripa palustris* (L.) Bess. seems to be the correct name.—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

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### HYDRANGEA PANICULATA NATURALIZED IN MASSACHUSETTS.

R. J. EATON.

EARLY in September, my brother, F. W. Eaton reported that he had seen from the road a conspicuous patch of *Hydrangea*, well established in a swamp in Lincoln, Massachusetts, about three-quarters of a mile northeast of the village, and within a stone's-throw of cultivated farm land. I visited the place, and was amazed to find a veritable tangle of *Hydrangea* in full flower, growing in a peaty maple swamp which had been partially cleared perhaps five years ago, judging from the size of those maple sprouts which have successfully competed with the *Hydrangea*. Although this shrub constitutes the dominant growth in an area of about two acres, other plants such as *Rhododendron viscosum*, *Vaccinium*, *Clethra*, and *Rubus*, were noted in some abundance. Generally speaking, the *Hydrangea* grew in rather dense irregular clumps at an average height of 1.5 meters. The tallest specimen to be found, growing as a single wand-like sapling on the edge of the clearing in partial shade, was over three meters in height. Most of the clumps were in full sunlight, and bore scores of flowering panicles. Judging from the diameter of the woody stems, ranging from four to eight centimeters at the ground, and from the large number of individual plants growing in a maximum area of perhaps three acres, it is quite probable that the *Hydrangea* was thoroughly established many years ago. Presumably, it bloomed sparsely if at all while shaded by the maple growth, and became conspicuous only after the trees were cut off. It is probable but not